

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A process for increasing the circulating levels of a self protein in the blood stream of an immunocompetent animal which comprises delivering an adenoviral vector in vivo to muscle cells of said animal by intramuscular injection in an amount sufficient to obtain expression of and increase the circulating level of said self protein in the bloodstream of said animal for a period greater than about 30 days, wherein said self protein is [erythropoietin] erythropoietin or a growth hormone.

11. (Amended) A process for increasing the circulating levels [or] of a self protein in the blood stream of an immunocompetent animal which comprises
transforming muscle cells of said animal ex vivo with an adenoviral vector encoding a self protein to thereby produce transformed muscle cells, wherein said self protein is erythropoietin or a growth hormone, and further wherein said self protein undergoes secretion, diffusion, or transport to the circulation upon expression in vivo; and
delivering said transformed muscle cells by intramuscular injection to said animal in an amount sufficient to obtain expression of and increase the circulating level of said self protein in the bloodstream of said animal for a period greater than about 30 days.